STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Political Situation in Soviet Union

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): Government has seen the statement signed by Mr. G.I. Yanaev, the acting Soviet President, Prime Minister Pavlov, and First Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Defence Council Baklanov, that in accordance with Article 127.7 of the Soviet Constitution, the authority of the President of USSR has been transferred from Mr. M.S. Gorbachev to the Vice-President Mr. G.I. Yanaev. The Government has also received the appeal issued by Mr. G.I. Yanaev to the Heads of State/Government of all countries and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations informing that with effect from the 19th August, 1991, in accordance with the Constitution and the laws of the Soviet Union an emergency is being introduced for six months, during which period all powers and authority is to be exercised by the State Committee on the emergency situation in the Soviet Union.

Sir, India attaches great importance to its relations with USSR which are based on the universally accepted principles of conducting inter-state relations and are reflected in the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation. It was because of the importance that both the countries attached to the Treaty that very recently they jointly announced their intention to extend it by a further period of twenty years. The above events in the Soviet Union are thus of vital interest to us and indeed to the whole world. The Government of India is, therefore, constantly and carefully monitoring the situation there since receiving reports of the announcements and is maintaining close touch with the situation in this regard.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): The main culprits in the Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case, Sivarasan and Subha, are reported to have committed suicide in Bangalore.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. There is one more announcement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Government should make a statement on that whether they have committed suicide or whether ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Hannan Mollah, please take your seat. Yesterday, the Members wanted that a statement should be made by the Home Minister on what has happened in Tamil Nadu with respect to Shri Chidambaram and other M.Ps. I had asked that a statement should be made. I am informed by the Home Minister that he has collected the information but he would like to check it again to verify it and to make the statement after checking up. I have allowed him to check it and make the statement.

AN HON. MEMBER: What time?

MR. SPEAKER: Probably it may be tomorrow not today....

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are very many statements which are made by the Government, by the Ministers, about which unless we know the time, we miss them. For example, last night around 7.30 or 8, a statement was made in respect of Kashmir migrants and we were not informed of that earlier. If we had been informed, we could have adjusted accordingly. Therefore, the time should be notified some time in advance...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I do agree that it is better if the Members are informed about it...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, let me complete what I want to say. I agree with you that the Members should be informed and it will certainly take them to know what is actually being said on the floor of the House. But there is one more point which has to be borne in mind that all these statements are coming in response to the queries made on the business which is not listed — unlisted business. I do agree that yesterday one of the hon. Members wanted that a

statement should be made and I had said that the statement should be made and it came. Otherwise I would have allowed that statement to be made today itself at this time.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: For example, this particular statement was agreed on Friday.

MR. SPEAKER: Which one?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: That the Home Minister would make a statement on Kashmir migrants was agreed in the parties leaders meeting on Friday and, therefore, it could have been easily listed for Monday, or if it was not listed, it should have been listed for Tuesday.

MR. SPEAKER: Unlisted business and statements on unlisted business generally we are not mentioning in the agenda. This is all on unlisted business.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I can understand in respect of, say, air crash. There too, if a couple of hours before the statement is made...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: This is being done in response to the matters which are not mentioned on the agenda. But then I agree with you that the spirit should be borne in mind.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since it relates to me, I would like to have a clarification regarding it.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Just a minute. Sir, if it is unlisted, the previous practice was that a note was circulated that at this particular time a statement will be made by a Minister. This happened always in the case of unlisted statements... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: If you all agree, I will have this introduced in the Rules book itself so that it does not become unlisted. Everything now we are doing is unlisted. It is not mentioned in the rules. If you want to make it so accurate, then we will mention it in the rules.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am not on that point. What I am saying is that the earlier practice was...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., we will consider. I have understood the spirit and it will be borne in mind.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, on that day I raised the issue of lathi-charge on Kashmiri migrants. When I raised it on the next day it was said that statement would be made on the same day. But such incident had taken place there that the House was adjourned...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He did make the statement.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The Hon. Home Minister has said in your Chamber that statement would be made on Monday. Yesterday I again raised this matter and met him at 4. P.M. because the Minister of Water Resources had called a meeting at 6.00 P.M.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khuranaji, I am not ready to give too much importance to what is happening in zero hour. Otherwise, we will introduce in the Rules Book and go according to the rules.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: It is my humble submission that I may be informed as to where we should discuss the problems of the poor Kashmiri migrants.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why statement has been made on it.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The statement was made at 08.00 P.M.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., there is no question-answer on statements. Yes, Hannan Mollahji.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA; Sir, I would like to say that the statement which was made yesterday.... *(Interuptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You got the statement.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: We have not been informed anything about it.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is not allowed according to rules.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, you have given such ruling.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, in exceptional cases, not like this. Yes, Hannan Mollahji.

MR. SPEAKER: Now Shri Hannan Mollah.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): There is a report that the prime culprits of Rajiv's assassination—Sivarasan and Subha—have committed suicide today morning at Bangalore when they were encircled by the Police. I want to know whether it is a failure of the S.I.T. to apprehend them to find out the real conspiracy behind the assassination. We have also seen Indira Gandhi's murder. Many people have been killed. So we do not know what is happening. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Hannan Mollah, you please continue with your speech I am pointing the member sitting behind you

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, this is my request to the Government through you that the Home Minister should immediately enquire and make a statement as to how this can happen—the main culprits could be eliminated, I do not know by whom and what has happened. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Home Minister is here. He should make a statement.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): This is a very important matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: One after the other.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The Home Minister was saying that a foreign hand was suspected. The prime suspects are being destroyed in this manner. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: One after the other should speak. I am allowing Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav. Your party Member has spoken on this. Yes, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We want a statement from the Home Minister. If it is not satisfactory, then I will demand a House Committee to investigate into what is happening. If a foreign hand is suspected and one after the other they destroy the evidence, what will happen?

MR. SPEAKER: Nirmal Kantiji, one Member of your party has already taken it up.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): If it is a fact, he has to make a response. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Please understand. If all of you speak at one and the same time, nothing is recorded. If you speak one after the other, something is at least recorded.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): But you are not giving us a chance. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, since the shocking assassination of the late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi this fact has come to light that the LTTE has organised itself on a very large scale and they have deep rooted net not only in Tamil Nadu but in the neighbouring States also. Now these facts have come to light. It is also

serious that most of the prime suspects for whom the search is on, are committing suicide and Police is not able to lay its hands on them. It seems that there is a systematic efforts for the elimination of the evidence. I want that the Home Minister should make a statement on this. The LTTE which is so well-organised can become a very serious threat for our national integration. I think a full and detailed statement should made by the Home Minister. This is what I am demanding. *(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Lokanathji. This is not going on record. *(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: please sit down. It is not going on record. *(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you later on. Please understand it is not going on record. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is becoming a great concern for all us and already the Home Minister said that there is some international conspiracy, and I do share with him about this. But one thing is, there is a systematic conspiracy to destroy all proof and I want to draw the attention of the Home Minister to the fact that those persons who are in charge of security are now in charge of investigation also. Sir, when something happens, naturally they would try to save themselves and the investigation should go in that line. So, I want the Home Minister should also take it into consideration that the persons who were in charge of security should not be in the investigating process and these happenings are just proof of this. so, on this point the Home Minister should clarify.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: We are really concerned about the facts raised by honourable Hannan Mollah Sahib and through this House the nation owes an explanation from the hon. Home Minister whether it is a fact that the prime suspect of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's assassination and his accomplice have committed suicide. Sir, we must know the facts before the House is adjourned today. At the same time, Sir, today being the birthday of hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, I would urge upon the hon. Prime Minister that a memorial should be constructed at Sriperumbudur in memory of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday night some journalists told me that Sivarasan, the main culprits in Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case has perhaps committed suicide. The matter has been pending for quite a long time and there is much talk about it that it is the biggest man hunt in history. An award of Rs. Ten lakh was announced on the head of Shri Sivarasan. The death of Sivarasan in mysterious way has further deepen the mystery. It would be good if the Government take the House into confidence. The Government's clarification in this regard is must to have the factual position and to dispel rumours.

We have been waiting that the hon. Minister would give information about Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case. Today is the birth day of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and atleast on this day some information about the progress made in the investigation should be given to the House.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, the Minister is here. What we want to konw is whether the news that has appeared is a fact or not. What is the information with the Government?

The second thing is that the Home Minister has been constantly saying that there is a foreign hand behind the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, though LTTE was there motivated by some foreign power. He also promised that there will be a judicial inquiry to investigate the matter. Now, why this delay? That explanation he must give in this House. An attempt is going on to subvert the investigation as to who were behind the assassination, what was the conspiracy. We, Sir, are very serious, we want to

*Not recorded.

know why this delay and when they are going to institute that inquiry.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, what has already been said, I am not going to repeat. I just want to draw the attention of the Home Minister to this and ask whether it is a fact that after he said that it is an American conspiracy, he was asked by the American Ambassador here about it and he said that it was a slip of tongue. If that is so, then I am exteremely astonished. *(Interruptions)*. Therefore, Sir, I would only request him to make a full statement with regard to this. This conspiracy is not only there from Karnataka to Assam, but all over from east and west. Let him please tell us this thing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman-Nicobar Islands): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of great regreat that after the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, incidents of killings are taking place one after the other...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you also want a Statement?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: The killings that are taking place are going out of control of the Government. It is a serious matter. If foreign conspiracy goes on like this in the country and we do not protect the life and property of the people of this country then it would pose a serious threat to integrity and freedom of the country. Therefore, I would like to say that the hon. Home Minister should state the factual position before the House. What are the compulsions of the Government? Why such incidents are taking place and why the Government fails to check these things? Many things have been said about it yet the Government is unable to check such incidents. The House should be informed about all these things. Today is the birthday of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and therefore the Government should inform the House as to what steps it is going to take in this regard.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, few days back I raised this matter during zero hour that our intelligence agencies, be it RAW or be it CBI, which are investigating into the assassination case of Shri Rajiv Gandhi have proved total failure. Some people who are involved in the conspiracy are destroying evidences and that is why such murders are taking place..... *(Interruptions)*.. That is why the mystery of Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case is further deepening. As you are saying of international conspiracy, there may be some elements within the country itself who will also be exposed to the country if the case is instituted. That is why conspiracy is being hatched to destroy the evidences. Whether such elements are within the country or..... *(Interruptions)*.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khurana, you are giving a speech and it is difficult to proceed like this.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The hon. Minister should enquire about it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not want statement from the Minister on the incident that took place at Bangalore alone. We believe that Special Investment Team which was constituted to investigate into the assassination case of Shri Rajiv Gandhi has proved total failure. We would like the hon. Home Minister to take the House into confidence and state the reasons for the failure of SIT. During last two months such statements were given that some suspected persons were seen sometime at Calcutta, sometime at Delhi and sometime in Nepal. Why such information were given. Was it to mislead the people of the country or to keep those people in dark who were being man hunted? *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: We have enough discussion on it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I tell you the reasons behind it. It is a serious matter. The officers of SIT have been travelling every metropolition city of India for the last two months. Why they are doing so when

they know that culprits are hiding somewhere near Madras or Bangalore. We want complete information about it..... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: It can cause impediment in the investigation, therefore you should make your submission within a limit.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why Government should make a statement on it. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI R. SRIDHARAN (Madras South): Mr. Sepeaker, Sir, yesterday, a Congress (I) Member had asked for the immediate dismissal of the State Government of Tamil Nadu. On behalf of my party here, I would request an immediate apology from the concerned Member as he had no business to do so in this House. As far as the Assembly is concerned, we have 225 MLAs. *(Interruptions)* So, I demand an immediate apology from him. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N. P. G. NARAYANA (Gobichettiyalayam): Yesterday during zero Hour, Shri Adaikalaraj and Shri C. K. Kuppuswamy demanded the dismissal of the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has said that he is coming with the statement. Why do you raise the issue now?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN: Yesterday during zero hour, Shri Adaikalaraj and Shri C. K. Kuppuswamy demanded the dismissal of the State Government. But the fact is that in the byelection which is now taking place in Tamil Nadu, our Chief Minister and All India Anna DMK are campaigning for Congress. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh): Let this be raised after the statement is made. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have made the point. Please take your seat. Your colleague also made the point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN: We are also supporting the Congress at the Centre Sir, those two Congress Members should withdraw their statement demanding dismissal of the State Government. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot ask you to withdraw your own statement. Please sit down. Now you understand the position. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN: It is a very serious matter. *(Interruptions)* It is an important issue. Their statement is contrary to the stand of the Congress party.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Will you ask your colleagues to sit down when you are making the statement?

(Interruptions)

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Let his statement come after the statement of the hon. Minister. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN: Yesterday two Congress Members demanded the dismissal of the Tamil Nadu Government but the fact is in the byelection which is now taking place in Tamil Nadu, our Party and our Chief Minister are campaigning for Congress party. But thier stand is contrary to the stand of the Congress party and, therefore, either they have to resign or they have to withdraw their statement. Otherwise, we may have to reconsider our stan. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: You can reconsider that. What is there? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All of you, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: We want an immediate apology. That is all we want. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): You need a Counsel now.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): When a real Counsel will be needed for the House, I will only have Shri Somnath Chatterjee as the Counsel, no one else.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It depends on how much you give. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I would like to request my hon. friends from the AIADMK Party...

SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: Alliance Party.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: When I say friends, it is more than an alliance. I would like to say it—the hon. Members would kindly bear this in mind—that there was a very heated debate yesterday on this issue. So far as the Government is concerned and if I may add also the Party is concerned, there is nothing farther from the mind than the question of asking for the dissolution of the Tamil Nadu Government. There is no question. Now, the point is that somebody has said something in the heat of the moment and I think we should not be that fussy about it. *(Interruptions)*

DR. (SMT.) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode): We demand an apology.

SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: Why should they make such a demand. We demand an apology. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I am standing here. Let us please understand that what you have wanted, you got it from the Government. Even after that if you are agitating, standing, talking and shouting, we do not know what you are asking for.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Plea[illegible] sit down now. You cannot continue [illegible]e this. You cannot go on doing like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The representative of the Government has said what he has said on the floor of the House. What is it that you want now?

SHRI R. RAMASWAMY (Periyakulam): They have wounded the feelings of the people of Tamil Nadu. We demand an apology.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't shout like this. This is not correct. What you are saying is being watched by everybody in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: We are not fussy about it. We want an apology from the Member of Parliament concerned. He demanded yesterday dissolution of the Tamil Nadu Assembly. He should apologise. We are not fussy about it. *(Interruptions)*

12.35 hrs.

At this stage, Shri R. Sridharan and some other hon. Members came and sat on the floor near the Table

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: That will not go on record. Please go to your seats.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Please adjourn the House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is this confabulation that is going on here? Is it a place for a party meeting? Enough is enough. They are treating the Chair with utmost disrespect. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 1 o'clock.

12.40 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at four minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

13.04 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): This is not right. Let them go outside, discuss it and come back. In the House some dignity is to be maintained.

MR. SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Members that if they have to discuss and consult, they can do it in the Lobby and come back?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we want them to come back and participate in the discussions of the House. I hope it has been resolved and Shri Arjun Singh has been able to

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*Not recorded.

satisfy them. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They have wisely taken a decision, it appears.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Haradhan Roy.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol): Sir, I would like to mention the following subject.

> 'Mine accidents of serious nature which took place on 2nd and 8th of August, 1991, at Kunostoria Colliery of Eastern Coal Fields'.

Sir, the above said two accidents could have caused heavy loss of lives of colliery workers. These two accidents reveal that safety of mine workers receives little attention of management though misinformation is spread through Television films very regularly misusing public money, that mines safety received highest importance of this public sector Coal India Limited. The first accident happened on 2.8.91 in Kunostoria Colliery was due to inrush of water into workings of Kenda Seam, where workers are employed, from a waterlogged, abandoned top seam as was the case with Mahabir Colliery disaster of November, 1989, which trapped below ground 71 workers, six of whom died. The second one was a devastating surface subsidence on 8.8.91 which resulted in caving in of the residence of the Agent and the Manager of this Colliery. Mines Safety has reached so low that even the Agent and the Managers, the senior-most officers of the Colliery, fail to ensure safety to their quarters and family members. How can they be relied upon to ensure safety to the Colliery workers and the villagers staying in the area of the Colliery. Such dangerous happenings are innumerable in Raniganj Coal Field as because the Management as well as the Directorate-General of Mines Safety, the enforcement authority of Mines Safety, have become almsot defunct so far as safety is concerned.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Coal for necessary action.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards opening of an Open University at Nalanda. The Nalanda International University in Bihar had been a very famous university. Four years ago, the Central Government took a decision to open an open university here but no action has so far been taken in this regard. Funds or for that matter help of any kind supposed to the provided by the Central Government to the State Government have not been provided so far. I would urge that the Government should issue directions in this regard and also should extend necessary assistance to State Government to enable them start the university there.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government regarding the flood situation in Orissa. Yesterday, the Leader of the House has given a very casual statement saying that, as usual, help will be given to the State Governments.

Sir, the flood situation in Orissa is very serious and about fifty lakh people are still in marooned stage. The price of rice has gone upto Rs. 10 per kg and it is not available because of the dislocation. I now demand that the Government of India should send adequate rice and other essential commodities as required by the Government of Orissa. I also demand that the Prime Minister should visit the areas immediately. Sir, eleven districts of Orissa have been severely affected by flood and it is still continuing. Even today nearly fifty lakh people are marooned.

I demand a statement from the Government about the flood situation in Orissa and that the Prime Minister should immediately go to the flood affected areas. The statement given yesterday by Shri Arjun Singh is not really satisfactory. He said, as usual, help will be given. It is not a usual flood. It is totally a different type of flood which has caused serious damage to the environment, to the canal system, to the communications, and to the lives of the people. So, I demand that

the Government of India should cooperate and give adequate assistance to the State Government so that they can be in a position to rescue the people and give relief to them.

I request again Mr. Arjun Singh to respond to the State Government's appeal to give adequate relief material to the Government of Orissa.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I have to make a request. The situation is very serious. I want that the Government should at least make a statement in Parliament to the nation on the flood situation in Orissa. The national Press is also not taking it into consideration.

I think, I should urge upon the leader of the House to at least make a statement on the flood situation in Orissa. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, I am raising another very serious question. For two weeks, my resolution on flood and drought is pending in the House. You see how serious we are.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, I would be constrained to disclose what you had discussed with me in my chamber.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: I sympathise with you also because you also want it. But we are not able to discuss it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Government make a statement on the flood situation in this House? That is my demand. The honourable leader of the House should respond. It is not a small thing. (*Interruptions*) Lakhs of people are marooned. (*Interruptions*) The Government is not able to give relief. (*Interruptions*) A kilogram of rice costs Rs. 12. It is inhuman. Children's birth is taking place under the sky. The Government must make a statement. Now it is seven to eight days. (*Interruptions*) Our demand is reasonable. We want the Government to make a statement on the flood situation in Orissa. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Panigrahi, now you make the statement. You will have to be very brief. Do not repeat anything.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the natural calamities, including floods, are a usual feature in Orissa. But this type of flood has assumed very serious proportion and people's miseries are untold and beyond description. Of course, according to the Eighth Finance Commission, there is a provision that the State should meet the requirement. (*Interruptions*) I request the Government of India to come to the rescue of the flood-affected people in Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down now.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Aerial survey should be undertaken. (*Interruptions*) The Government should come to the rescue of the people affected particularly by the floods considering its magnitude. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: In response to your statement, he has stood up.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has got up and you are not allowing him.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice in this connection.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Let us hear him.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): I think, yesterday only, this matter was raised. Immediately after the matter was raised, I brought this to the attention of the Hon. Prime Minister. He has directed that all help be rendered to Orissa Government to

help them meet the needs of the flood-hit people.

Now, after that, if there is anything wanting, I can understand. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): No Central team has visited Orissa. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: If you think that something more needs to be done, it can be done. We are not trying to shy away from you. But to say that we have not taken notice of it and the Prime Minister has not taken notice of it is not correct. He has taken notice of it; he has asked the concerned persons to render help to the Orissa Government. If you want anything else, then kindly do let us know and we will go all out. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, we are not satisfied with his statement. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, through you, I would like to request one thing. Will it not be better to give a statement on the situation in Orissa and also what the Central Government has done so far? I think it will be reasonable.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: There is no objection over this absolutely. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may not be satisfied only with the statement. If you are really serious about this issue, the MPs of your State may meet the concerned Ministers, discuss the situation and you may apprise him and then what can be done can be decided afterwards.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Vikramganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this House towards Dalmia Industry in Bihar. It was a major industry which had six units, but the industry was closed down following a rift between the labourers and the management. Thereafter, as per the Supreme Court verdict, dated 24.10.1989, this industry was revived. As per the court verdict the employees were to be reinstated w.e.f. 6th July. The Central Government and Government of Bihar provided Rs. 15 crores each so as to revive the industry and it's Managing Director* was appointed. About fifteen thousand workers were working in this factory. But M.D. is making recruitment of labourers arbitrarily in total disregard of the court verdict.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Names will not go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: The units which have started functioning till date are asbestos Daid and cement. But the biggest unit of this industry is the paper factory which is still lying closed. It needs a huge sum of money for its revival. Through you, I urge the Government to extend assistance to this factory so that the paper unit can start functioning. The fifteen thousand workers who are dying of starvation should be provided relief. Along with this, I would also like to make an appeal that the M.D. of that factory is spending the funds arbitrarily, which had been sanctioned for the labourers. He purchased raw materials worth Rs. 10 crores unnecessarily out of the sanctioned amount of Rs. 15 crores sanctioned for the welfare of the workers. Asbestos unit has started functioning but it is almost lying closed due to scarcity of cement. I would urge that a committee should be set up to probe into the style of functioning of the M.D. and impose restriction on his arbitrary ways. At the same time arrangements to revive the paper mill should be made at the earliest.

[English]

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI (Sikkim): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the sorry plight of Sikkim. Many hon. Members are speaking on drought and floods in this House. But somehow, I have got a feeling that they do not realise that there are hilly terrains also in this country where land slides occur which cause misery to the people living there.

Sir, recently, six people were killed in

*Not recorded.

Sikkim. And at many places, road transport were disrupted and communication links were snapped. Four members of a family were buried alive and two young boys were carried away by a river. So, I would urge upon the Central Government to give assistance to the State Government and give relief to the affected families and also maintain or reconstruct the disrupted transport and communications.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a serious matter. Eastern U.P. is in the grip of cholera and the ailment has claimed at least 200 lives in the month of August. There is no space in the hospitals and there is also acute shortage of doctors and medicines. I would like to urge the Government to intervene in the matter and send a medical team to Deoria, Padrauna and Gorakhpur immediately. Special arrangements should be made in Deoria and appropriate measures for the treatment of people suffering from cholera should be taken by the Central Government.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the atrocities being committed by Delhi Police.

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, please be brief.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, Shri Jai Ram was called to the police station for interrogation.

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, the way you are speaking, it appears that you are going to make a long speech. I request you to be brief.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will be brief. But please let me to speak. The police called Jai Ram, his wife, his 13 years old daughter Vasanti, 11 years old son, Manoj Kumar and second son Dillip Kumar to Patel Nagar police station for interrogation and beat Jai Ram to death.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the crux of the matter is that a marriage procession came to that place. In that block there is a tent house called Anand tent House. One Swarandeep Kaur lost her purse there. Manoj Kumar was called to the Patel Nagar police station on suspicion.

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, there is no need to narrate the incident in detail. It will be proper you talk about the action to be taken in this regard.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying the same thing. He was called there on suspicion and beaten to death. His wife was beaten so brutally that till date her entire body is totally swelling. Mr. Speaker, Sir, all these reports have been published in the newspapers. The newspaper is here. Please go through its reports.

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, there is no need to show newspapers.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this area falls in my constituency and they were called on suspicion and thereafter beaten to death. Everyone received serious injuries. His thirteen year old daughter Vasanti was also beaten. When I was informed about it, I reached the spot to find that they were in great pain.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that this was not the first incident in Patel Nagar police station. Many similar incidents have taken place in the past. Within two to three years police officers were involved in five cases of murder. An incident of similar nature took place two months ago. A person residing at Prem Nagar was called to Patel Nagar police station and beaten to death.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I urge that the Police Chief and the S.H.O. should immediately be transferred. The family of Jai Ram should be sanctioned Rs. 5 lakhs as compensation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am apprehensive that this case will not get the required justice because its investigation has been entrusted to Vigilance Department which is also a Police department. As such I urge that this case should be enquired into by the C.B.I. and the culprits should be punished at the earliest.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I urge that the Home Minister should make a statement in this

august House regarding the brutal and heneious crime of Delhi Police and state the action taken by Government in all such cases and the action that has been taken in this particular case.

[English]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Incidents of this kind are being repeated throughout the whole country and there is a growing insensitivity about it. Therefore, I would plead with the Government. Here is a case which has taken place in Delhi itself. There was a person who was taken to police custody for investigation and he was so beaten up that he has died. His other relations have also been beaten up. Let this be a test case. If the Government takes action immediately, then it would have a salutary effect on the entire police administration.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Information has been received about this incident. I am collecting all details. By this evening, I hope to come to the House with a statement about this incident and the action taken thereof.

MR. SPEAKER: We will give you time till tomorrow. You may make the statement tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadeep): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the Home Minister's attention towards the deplorable condition of our area. He has visited our area so he is well acquainted with this fact that there is no industry at all either in public sector or in private sector. Only a self-employment scheme is being implemented there. Shri Vajpayee also has visited that area. Even in the recruitment to the police-force, only 45 per cent vacancies are provided to the people of that area. We have been making arguments against this attitude since long. We had raised this issue in the meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs when Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad was the State Minister. The youths of the area are under heavy tension because of further recruitment which is to be made there very soon. They are very much against this discriminatory attitude. So the Home Minister should issue a statement and give an assurance that only the local people would be recruited and, not the out-siders.

[English]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): The Ministry of Welfare has sponsored a study on Drugs-prevention, effects in India—legal, administrative and procedural aspects. Period of this study group was four years from November 1985 to December 1989. Sir, the findings of this study group are very alarming. The study has brought out horrible information to light. During these four years, about 30,400 Kg of narcotic drugs and other such substances were recovered leading to the arrest of 7,440 people involving 736 cases. The recovery included 52 Kg of Heroin, 901 Kg of Opium, 10,467 Kg of Charas, 2,126 Kg of Ganja and 50 gm of Cocaine. These are the substances which are confiscated but the quantity which has been sold and consumed is much more. It says that the drugs not recovered are likely to be many-folded and the proportion of illicit incoming of drugs is stated to be ever increasing. Therefore, I urge that every possible mean should be applied and the drug menace should be fought on war-footing.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Mr.. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a controversy regarding the passage leading to a grave-yard (KABRISTAN) located in Deoria district. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is a mis-use of time of the Parliament. The issue of a passage leading to a grave-yard should not be raised in the Parliament.

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: On 29th July, 29 houses were looted. Their crops were looted and they were driven out of their houses, 45 persons have been arrested in this connection. In this very context, I would like to draw your

attention that the District Administration has made available 2 kilo flours to each family of the victims. *(Interruptions)* *[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record. *(Interruptions)**

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, ragging has become of late an instrument of causing physical harm and mental shock to the new entrants in colleges.

Sir, recently, Shri Sandip Singha Roy Choudhury, a student of First Year of IIT Kharagpur was compelled to walk on the narrow parapet of the Second Floor by the senior students. He fell down on the ground. He became senseless. The senior students went away in the night. In the morning, his colleages came and took him and got him admitted in the hospital. Thereafter, the authorities of the college did not take any care of the student. Even they did not show any sympathy towards that student. Not only that, a section of the students, a section of the teachers and the Director of that Institute are obstructing the police investigation.

Sir, I urge upon the Government, specially, the Minister for Human Resource Development to kindly take initiative in finding out the details so that such incidents do not recur in future.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): The authorities of the IIT Kharagpur, instead of preventing ragging, have given threat to the students that they will close down the Institute. They are encouraging ragging which is anti-educational system. I would request the Government to take necessary precaution in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your permission to raise an important issue about the implementation of the 'one-rank one-pension' scheme for the Ex-Servicemen. There are three points in it. My first point is...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may raise this issue during the discussion on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: My first point is that several committees were constituted for that purpose. The Estimate Committee had also mentioned about this during 1980-81 in its fifteenth report. Later on a high level committee was constituted and it had also given the same recommendation. In the latest move of the 13th October, 1990 it was announced that the pension of all the ranks from jawan to subedar would be increased and they will now draw the pension equivalent to their counterparts in the Navy and in the Air-force. But that too has not been implemented yet. As a result of this delay, thousands of Ex-Servicemen from all over the country are coming to stage a massive dharana on the Boat Club from 26th to 28th August. All the parties in their respective manifestoes had clearly supported this demand. So, I insist upon the Government to clear its stand about this and thereby to initiate for implementing the order of the 13th October 1990. I request the Government to take steps for implementing the 'one rank-one pension' scheme.

SHRI TEJ SINGH RAO BHONSLE (Ramtek): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at Nagpur there is a National Fire Service College which is a very big college and it is only one of its kind in the country. Three courses are conducted there in that college. The first one is the 25 weeks course for the sub-officers, the second one is the 25 weeks-course for the station officers and the third one is the 22 weeks course for the Divisional officers. These are the certificate on diploma courses. In 1978, a course of B.E. (Fire Engineering) was started, which was recognised by the Nagpur University. The Nagpur University had urged the Central Government to do something for that college. In 1989-90 a plan was made to construct a proper campus for this college. For this purpose, even the land was purchased.

*Not recorded.

A handsome amount of Rs. 4 crores was made available for that. But neither that amount could be utilized there nor the plan could be materialized. And for this reason, that college is on the verge of closure. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Is that a Central Government college?

SHRI TEJ SINGH RAO BHONSLE: This is under Central Government. There will be a great loss if this college is closed. Sophisticated Fire-brigade machines and equipments worth Rs. 5-6 crores were brought in that college. The trucks and air-conditioned ambulances are there in the college. (*Interruptions*) I wanted to say this much and nothing more.

MR. SPEAKER: The college should not be closed, that's all.

[English]

SHRI K. VENKATGIRI GOWDA (Bangalore South): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about two decades ago, in 1971, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid a foundation stones of two industries in Karnataka. One was a steel plant in Vijaynagar and the other was a fertiliser plant in Mangalore. These two industries were said to be important not only for the economy of Karnataka but also for the Indian economy.

The Planning Commission, in its Report, has made provisions during the Fifth, Sixth and the Seventh Five Year Plans for these two industries, but no action was taken. The Government of Karnataka and the people of Karnataka requested the Government of India to take immediate action with regard to these two industries, but no action followed. The people of Karnataka are, therefore, distressed, disillusioned and disappointed. If no action is taken immediately, they may go on a war path shortly.

These two industries are very helpful for the people of Karnataka; these two industries will generate employment for the people of Karnataka who are unemployed. These two industries will earn foreign exchange.

Secondly, Iron and Steel Plant in Vijaynagar will export iron ore and iron and steel to foreign countries and earn foreign exchange. Therefore, these two industries will not only earn foreign exchange but also save foreign exchange. The Fertiliser Plant in Mangalore will reduce our dependence on import of fertiliser. Therefore, these two industries, if started immediately, will jointly resolve the foreign exchange crisis which the country is facing today. Will the Government of India start these two industries immediately so as to help the people of Karnataka and also earn foreign exchange for the country?

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the life-saving drugs have become a scarce commodity in the country for the last 15 days. The drug-manufacturers after convening their meetings have threatened to observe a token strike if the prices of drugs are not increased. But the Government is keeping a silence about this. There will be a question of life and death before the people in such circumstances, I have to say only this....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV (Shahjahanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to put an important issue before you.

In Shahjananpur district of Uttar Pradesh, there is an ordinance clothing factory in which 30 items of dress being used in the Defence forces are prepared. Out of these 30 items, the Government handed over 18 items in 1986 to the private traders for fabrication. With the result, 10,000 workers of the factory have become jobless and they are being retrenched. This has adversely affected their family life. The vacant posts are also not being filled in. I have demanded many a time from the Government that those 18 items which were handed over to the Private Traders who prepare sub-standard quality of those items should be withdrawn from them and should again be fabricated in the factory, which is already in operation and well-equipped with all the machines so that the interests of the factory workers whose future have become dark may not hamper.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government a very ghastly incident which had taken place on the 14th August, 1991, a day just before we were celebrating our Independence Day.

In Nalgonda District, in Chalakurty town, a woman aged 48, Mrs. Muttamma, was stripped naked. She was then forcefully taken to a mandi. There she was asked to stand. Later, she was asked to move about in the streets in that village in broad day light by three persons belonging to upper caste, just because they thought that she was having some connection with an incident in which a boy belonging to the backward class and a girl belonging to an upper caste fell in love with each other. Since their parents did not appreciate their love affairs, they decided to go out of the place.

I would request the Central Government to contact the State Government to see that immediate action is taken against the culprits.

I also suggest that necessary amendment should be brought in the CPC so that stringent punishment could be awarded to the people who play with the chastity of women.

13.40 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND OF UNION TERRITORIES WITHOUT LEGISLATURE FOR 1991-92

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): On behalf of Shri S.B. Chavan,

I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

(1) The Detailed Demands for Grants (Volume-I) of the Ministry of Home Affairs for 1991-92.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 418191]

(2) The Detailed Demands for Grants (Volume-II) of the Minsitry of Home Affairs (Union Territories without Legislature) for 1991-92.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 419191]

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS FOR 1991-92

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for 1991-92.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 420191]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Ajit Kumar Panja to make a statement.

13.41 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

13.42 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Prices of Imported Newsprint

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): As the Hon'ble Members are aware the recent increase in the price of imported newsprint has been agitating the minds of Hon'ble Members as well as the newspaper industry. The newspaper establishments had protested against the sudden hike in the prices of imported newsprint, more particularly, the burden of about Rs. 60 crore which was proposed to be passed on to them. The S.T.C. had proposed to raise the prices of standard newsprint by Rs. 4,670/- per